

Site M:26/10/32

Craig House

16 Thomas Street

Private

Built: 1890

Cooke D. Lockett was a noted educator in Rockville when he turned to the more lucrative profession of real estate. His investment in the development of the West End included the partition of several lots and the erection of identical frame cottages on Thomas Street at (now) 16 and 10. Of the two, this one was considerably altered in the 1950's when the north and west side porches were enclosed and extended, and the first floor fenestration changed. Only one of the original nine-foot double hung sash windows remains on that level. Much of the interior woodwork is original, although period window trim, once removed, has been replaced with compatible pieces salvaged from other locales.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Craig house

2. Location

street & number 16 Thomas Street not for publicationcity, town Rockville vicinity of congressional district 8state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> building(s)	<u> </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert J. and Barbara Craigstreet & number 16 Thomas Street telephone no.: 340-7667city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Land Records liber 4616street & number Montgomery County Courthouse folio 80city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register (West Montgomery Ave. Historic District) - 1974
Locally designated historic district - 1974date M-NCPPC - 1976 federal state county localdepository for survey records City of Rockvillecity, town Rockville state Maryland

7. Description

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Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

Check one

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This 2 1/2 story three bay by two bay L-plan frame house is located on lot 10 of Veirs' Addition to Rockville. It was built in 1890 for real estate speculator Cooke D. Luckett, but was greatly altered in the 1950's. The original foundation is stone, with parged cinderblock under the additions. The standing seam tin on the gable roof is original. The house is sheathed in wood German siding.

The front (west) facade on Thomas Street bore the brunt of the alterations. The 2 1/2 story gable stem with returned cornice is now incorporated into an extension wrapping the northwest corner. The original porch across the front was enclosed and extended, and the north side porch was also enlarged and extended so that these two areas meet, forming a vestibule on the west side and an additional room on the north side. This section has a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles. The wood paneled entrance door has a fanlight transom.

Windows in the house were originally nine foot two-over-two double hung sash, but most of the first floor windows have been replaced with modern. The second floor windows are original. A central modern stove chimney sits on the ridge of the L.

The north gable is the leg of the L, one bay wide. Behind the L is a one bay by one bay two story addition (kitchen and laundry room); an exterior brick chimney is located at the north junction of the main block and this addition. To the rear of this addition is a shed-roofed one-story addition, which has a small frame outbuilding at the southeast corner. The outbuilding has a half-circle transomed door, which matches the front entry door, facing west.

In an attempt to return the house to its late 19th century style, the present owners have used materials and details of the period whenever possible. On the interior, wide moulding with bulls-eye blocks were salvaged from a house being razed on Baltimore Road in Rockville. The stairs, balustrade and floor are original. All of the fireplaces were previously removed, but the Craigs have installed a free-standing fireplace in the center of the living room, replacing a wall which divided the area into two rooms. In places where the 1950's alterations were irreversible, the Craigs have used period furnishings and decorative touches to evoke the period atmosphere.

The large lot has numerous plantings, and there is a brick sidewalk along Thomas Street.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1890	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or		
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The house at #16 Thomas, along with its twin at #10 Thomas, was constructed in 1890. Though they were built as speculative investments, they are comfortable "cottage" residences and were intended for purchase by people of substantial means who desired a suburban address. Part of #16's interest lies in a comparison with its unaltered "twin" next door, and the on-going attempts by the present owners to restore some of its earlier ambience within the limits imposed by a drastic remodeling that took place in the 1950's.

During the period 1886-1889, Rebecca T. Veirs bought and sold several large parcels of land as well as several individual houses. In 1886 she purchased 12 acres of the Williams estate situated at the western limits of Rockville, bordering the Rockville-Darnestown Road, on which she platted 19 building lots. The lots sold quickly; among the buyers was Cooke D. Luckett, who in addition to being a respected educator in the town's private schools, also carried on a lucrative real estate development business. Luckett purchased lots 9, 10 and 11 for \$600 and also lots 14 and 15 of the Veirs Addition. He resubdivided these five lots into eight, mortgaging the Thomas Street lots in 1890 while houses were constructed on them.¹

#16 Thomas today is on a lot 65 X 140 feet, but in 1891 the lot included parts of two other lots, with a total frontage on Thomas Street of 240 feet.² The buyer in 1891 was Virginia Longstreet Lamar, who paid \$3,700 for the property. Mrs. Lamar was the granddaughter of General James Longstreet, Lee's Lt. Gen. and chief battlefield tactician. Her father was L.P.C. Lamar, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. She married her cousin, attorney William H. Lamar.

Mrs. Lamar's failing health necessitated a move to the southwest United States.³ In 1909 the house was sold to Edwin and Elizabeth Monday. In the 1930's while local merchant Harry English owned the house, the Mondays' son and daughter-in-law rented the house from him while their own home next door at #18 Thomas was being built.

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Most of the major alterations were done in the 1950's, when the house was owned by the Ratton family. The windows were enlarged, porches enclosed and northwest extension added and paneled. The Rattons sold the house to the present owners in 1975.

The houses on Thomas Street, facing the extensive grounds of Chestnut Lodge, lie on large lots on a dead end street. The neighborhood and its comfortable houses have always appealed to middle-class families seeking a quiet long-term residence, the kind of people Lockett originally had in mind.

1. Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA 11, folio 487 and Plat Book A, folio 7 - "Lockett's Partial Subdivision of R.T. Veirs Addition to Rockville",
2. Montgomery County Land Records, Liber JA 23, folio 346.
3. Information about Lamar family taken from Obituary, Sentinel 1911 and 1928, and oral history of Mrs. James Moulden (formerly Mrs. Hughes Monday),



9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Land Records
Montgomery County Sentinel
Mrs. James Moulden - oral history

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 9155 square feet

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 10, Plat A-7; 65' on Thomas Street, depth of 140'
"R.T. Veirs Addition to Rockville"

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Anne W. Cissel/Eileen McGuckian, arch. desc.		
organization	Peerless Rockville	date	July 1984
street & number	P.O. Box 4262	telephone	762-0096
city or town	Rockville	state	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



1007-5

M: 26/10/32
CRAIG HOUSE
16 Thomas St.
WEST/NORTHWEST ELEVATION

RICHARD H. ANDREWS
1608 Faragut Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20851

AUGUST, 1984